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Small business awarded \$35M contract for WebTAS

by Francis L. Crumb, Information Directorate

ROME, N.Y. — The Air Force Research Laboratory's Information Directorate has awarded a \$35 million contract to Intelligent Software Solutions, a small business based in Colorado Springs, Colo., to provide support for the Web-Based Timeline Analysis System or WebTAS.

The objective of the five-year contract will be to perform engineering, operations and maintenance, and provide technical support for WebTAS at new and existing customer sites worldwide. Air Force engineers can obtain delivery orders totaling up to the \$35 million maximum, although actual requirements may necessitate less than that amount.

"This is a delivery order contract that gives us the ability to support users in a fairly quick manner," said John Mucks, program manager in the directorate's Information and Intelligence Exploitation Division. "We have a number of users around the world and that list is growing — primarily in the intelligence community, but also command and control organizations."

WebTAS provides a capability to rapidly connect to diverse data sources and combine the data in multiple analytical/visualization tools, with the goal of providing alerts/warnings of developing situations. Currently, WebTAS supports op-

erational users in the tracking of events, individuals, and/or organizations in support of counter insurgency, counter drug, counter terrorism and law enforcement. It was also used by the Department of Defense Columbia Investigation Support Team to correlate, validate and visualize multiple databases of sensors and related information involving the Feb. 1, 2003 breakup of the space shuttle.

"Under our agreement with this small business, we will be able to issue various task orders for performance of technical enhancements needed to correct identified shortcomings in WebTAS and provide additional capabilities, features and processes," Mr. Mucks said.

Timeline analysis has been used for years by the defense and intelligence communities, for predicting foreign government actions and responses to world events. By having a way to visualize events in time and geographically, patterns are revealed that can be seen no other way. These patterns can help predict terrorist activity, narcotics activities, and other criminal behavior of suspects, focusing investigations and limiting wasted man-hours. Timeline analysis can also aid prosecutors in presenting clear, cohesive cases. @